

PAM.
CHINA

HOW

A CHINESE CONGRE-
GATION GAVE ITS
APPORTIONMENT



THE district of Hankow, assessed \$100 gold, under the Apportionment Plan, has recently sent the Missions House \$149.69. This is not doing as well as we hope to do next year, when the plan is not as new and has become better understood. It is, of course, in addition to the \$90 contributed for missions by the Woman's Auxiliary during the past year, one-half of which will go home two years from now as the year's share of the United Offering.

Most of the smaller stations did not get word of their Apportionment, and an explanation of it, in time to do much about it this spring, but the Rev. Mr. Lindstrom, in charge of Taihu, a small town ninety miles from Gankin, sent about \$25 as the contribution of that place. Here there are twenty-eight candidates for confirmation awaiting the bishop's visit, but not a single communicant.

Until last spring it was worked by a young man named Hsiang, an old Boone school boy, who had stood by the Church through sickness and hardship, and was as yet too young to be what he longed to be, a preacher of "The Doctrine" to his people. Here in Taihu he used such zeal

and discretion that both his name and that of his church became favorably known in all that region. The candidates that he prepared for baptism were found to have been thoroughly taught, and the hearty good feeling and earnestness among the converts is thought to be largely the result of his consistent life. This Mr. Hsiang is now in the catechetical school in Hankow, and a graduate has taken his place.

Last spring, when Mr. Lindstrom made one of his visits to Taihu, he explained how there were places in all parts of the world which had not the opportunities of Taihu for knowing the truth, and how the same Church that had sent them Mr. Hsiang now asked them to help these others. A regular subscription was made (the method the Chinese understand best), not publicly, but by private interviews with each adherent, and the result on the following Sunday was this offering of \$25.

It should be said that our people in this place are almost all well-to-do. There are not the numbers of poor who reduce the average of gifts in most stations. But they are also unusually well-disposed, kindly, eager to learn, and inclined to give that which is in all nations the final

proof of attachment to a cause—the opening of purse-strings. A curious feature of the offering was that almost every piece of money in the alms-basin had its giver's name, written on red paper, pasted on one side. How would this method work at home? It would make the church-wardens some trouble, but might be found an effective substitute for the envelope system.

Reprinted from The Churchman.

If any reader of this leaflet desires to provide the support of the catechist at Taihu at a cost of \$60 a year, he should communicate with the Corresponding Secretary, 281 Fourth Avenue, New York.

Such a gift would apply upon the apportionment.

All offerings on account of the apportionment for Domestic and Foreign Missions should be sent to GEORGE C. THOMAS, Treasurer.

Copies of this leaflet may be obtained without cost by asking the Corresponding Secretary for No. 241.

THE DOMESTIC AND FOREIGN MISSIONARY SOCIETY
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